

21 March 1957

MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy Director (Plans)

VIA: CI/OA

SUBJECT: Operational Approval for Missions into Denied Areas

REFERENCE: CSN No. 10-27

1. A clarification is requested from you as to whether the reference was intended to apply to the briefing and debriefing by Project QACTIVE, on an overt, unwitting basis, of United States citizens or other persons making trips into the USSR.

2. In the normal course of its activities, the cover organization of QACTIVE becomes aware of many individuals, some of whom are United States citizens and others who are not, who have made arrangements to travel within the USSR. In some cases, such individuals have volunteered without solicitation, to keep their eyes open for overt information which would be useful to QACTIVE; in other cases, QACTIVE representatives have requested the assistance of these individuals in obtaining overt information. In no case is such an individual asked to act as an agent or to attempt to gather forbidden information, and none are made aware of Agency or U.S. Government support of the project.

3. From the practical viewpoint, it would seem inconsistent with the project's activities if it did not accept volunteered help from people travelling to the USSR or if it neglected to make some effort to contact other travelers whose names come to its attention.

4. In the case of individuals whom QACTIVE intends to send into the USSR, or for whom it would pay a significant part of the travel expenses, we would of course follow the procedures stipulated in CSN No. 10-27.

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